

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00025 071630Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-11 SAL-01 DLOS-04 OFA-01

INT-05 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 EB-07 COME-00

/108 W

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P R 071550Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5920

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

CNO WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

USUN NEW YORK 0455

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0025

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS PFOR IC UK

SUBJECT: ICELAND-UK FISHERIES DISPUTE: NEW RAMMING INCIDENTS

1. COAST GUARD HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ONE OF ITS CUTTERS, THOR, WAS  
RAMMED BY UK FRIGATE ABOUT NOON TODAY 35 MILES FROM SHORE. THERE  
WERE NO INJURIES TO CREW REPORTED. DAMAGE TO VESSEL HAD NOT BEEN  
ASSESSED. BRITISH SHIP WAS DESCRIBED AS TRAVELLING AT FULL SPEED  
WHEN IT DELIBERATELY SWERVED TO RAM THOR.

2. INCIDENT FOLLOWED WHAT COAST GUARD HAD PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED WERE  
REPEATED UNSUCCESSFUL RAMMING ATTEMPTS BY DIFFERENT BRITISH FRIGATE  
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TO RAM CUTTER TYR SOME 40 MILES EAST OF COUNTRY THIS MORNING.

COAST GUARD ACCOUNT STRESSED THAT NO BRITISH TRAWLERS WERE IN VICINITY, AND THAT MOTIVE COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN TO DAMAGE ICELANDIC VESSEL. REPORT FROM SHIP AS CONVEYED BY COAST GUARD CHARGED THAT UK SHIP "SEEMED DETERMINED TO SINK US."

3. COMMENT: THESE INCIDENTS, IF CONFIRMED, CAN BE EXPECTED TO RAISE ICELANDIC EMOTIONS TO NEW PITCH. IN PARTICULAR, GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS BEEN ATTACKED IN SOME QUARTERS FOR ALLEGED PASSIVITY, WILL BE UNDER OVERWHELMING PRESSURE TO TAKE SOME KIND OF ACTION. EVEN COALITION PARTY PRESS AND OFFICIALS THAT HAVE BEEN COUNSELLING CAUTION HAVE OFTEN ADDED CAVEAT THAT NEW SITUATION WOULD PREVAIL IF THERE WERE FURTHER RAMMINGS.  
IRVING

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHIP HARASSMENT, FISHING DISPUTES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976REYKJA00025  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760005-0386  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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